

Making Waves



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Mentoring Passion

"Moderation? It's mediocrity, fear, and confusion in disguise. It's the devil's dilemma. It's neither doing nor not doing. It's the wobbling compromise that makes no one happy. Moderation is for the bland, the apologetic, for the fence-sitters of the world afraid to take a stand. It's for those afraid to laugh or cry, for those afraid to live or die. Moderation...is lukewarm tea, the devil's own brew."

- Dan Millman, The Way of the Peaceful Warrior

I'm giving out a homework assignment, so listen up. Everyone reading this column has to mentor a young person. I don't care if you already have ten children of your own. You have to mentor one more. Loving and teaching your own children is, of course, work of a very high calling, but so is mentoring. It was an essential tool for building cohesiveness and continuity in the close-knit tribes of our ancestors, and it is essential for fostering stewardship responsibilities and building community now. The art and passion of mentoring follows a proud and direct line.

Though surfing is an often solitary sport, and some even work selfishly and rigorously to make it so, it is also filled with a great history of mentors and heroes. Duke Kahanamoku mentored Rabbit Kekai, and Rabbit is busy *right now* mentoring others. And that line threads right to you. You have to pick up that torch. As I've said before, we must stop looking for other people to supply the solution. YOU are the solution. If you're not, then there is no solution. We are the elders.

Two things are certain if you pick up the torch of mentoring. It will be a great challenge, and it will be one of the most rewarding, renewing experiences of your life. It is an opportunity to not just teach what you know, but to present as a record the whys and hows of where you found your path, your passion, and your personal knowledge. You have all of human history behind you, and a sacred opportunity to help shape that which lies ahead of us. Be warned though, for I am not talking about dropping in on just one wave, you have to be in for the long haul. Being someone's mentor is a potentially life-long commitment. It's saying that you are in it for life. But it starts with just one connection. And it's an easy segue. Everyone has a skill or a story to teach. Teach some inner city kids how to surf. Teach your niece how to play the guitar, take your nephews camping. Build birdhouses, plant seedlings, clean up a beach, or just go for a walk. Hey, retro is in with young people—your old surfing stories, your old hand-made, wooden skateboard, even your old vinyl all are IN now. These things are just ways in. Ways in to someone's attention, an opportunity to earn their respect and the chance to tell stories, and talk about what passions you have. And to pass on your respect for the ocean and the importance of our stewardship. It's an essential part of their education, and a part they might not get anywhere else if you don't make it happen. Giving young people a lively, engaging, stewardship-based education is the most important *environmental* issue of our time. All our work to give these kids a healthier, greener (and bluer) world is for naught if we haven't fostered in them the love and respect for stewardship that being successful heirs require.

I'll leave you with a powerful assessment from columnist Michael Ventura from a late 1999 column titled *Ranting in the Millennium*. Ventura's column can be read in its entirety at http://www.austin-chronicle.com/issues/dispatch/1999-12-24/cols_ventura.html

"What can we do?" is a question that the young ask with an urgency that we elders find increasingly disturbing—disturbing precisely to the extent that we've come to take the question for granted. But the young must ask it, and they have no one to ask but us. And they are correct not to forgive our reluctance to answer or our stammering when we try, for they have every right to an answer from their elders. And they know that homilies and career suggestions will not suffice. They feel as if they're being shot out of a cannon into an absolutely unknown and merciless situation, and they are right. They want an answer from us that is both definite enough to give them direction and open-ended enough to give them a sense of meaningful choice, and they can't help but feel that if we cannot give them such an answer we haven't really been paying attention to our own lives—and they are right again. Don't let their casual pop style fool you. What the best of them want is to be assigned a noble task—something that will make their lives meaningful. Nothing less will count. And they want to be assured that we, too, however humdrum our lives may seem, are laboring under a noble assignment, something more than mere survival and security, something that will connect our history with their future. For it is such a sense of purpose, and not merely our age, that makes us elders; without such purpose, we are as weightless as they feel, and when they sense this they despise us for it. And again they are right.

As we labor under our noble assignment, let us strive to pass on the flame of our passion.

-Joe Mozdzen

Cover: San Diego activists take to the water for this year's Paddle For Clean Water event. Check back next issue for more coverage on the event. Photo: Scott Harrison

Making Waves

The Surfrider Foundation is a non-profit environmental organization dedicated to the protection and enjoyment of the world's waves, oceans and beaches for all people, through conservation, activism, research and education.

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Twenty Years of Standing Up

Twenty years ago, a handful of surfers from Malibu decided to take a small stand on a very big issue—protecting their local surf break. Little did they know, that tiny stand, which was nothing more than a ripple in the vast ocean of environmental issues, would continue to grow and gain momentum until it developed into a swell. A swell of grassroots activism. And that activism has become the foundation for our “global community”.

Who could have known that those visionaries’ simple goal of protecting their surf break, would later evolve to the global proportions of protecting and preserving the world’s oceans, waves and beaches. But, it is just that which unites and empowers us all, and has created a tsunami of ocean warriors. That very swell continues to build to this day, and is just as powerful as the best day at Mavericks.

We need to continue to add to that momentum by motivating and encouraging ourselves and others to become active in our mission. We need to cultivate the drive and passion we all feel for the Surfrider Foundation because that is what unifies us all.

At our recent Coastal Summit we had over 200 attendees including activists representing more than half of our chapters from across the US, and most notably, Surfrider Foundation Japan’s former Executive Director, Masuo Ueda. It was by far the greatest gathering of our tribe we have seen.

It has been 10 years since I started with the Surfrider Foundation and I am as passionate today as I was the first day that I volunteered. And I know you all feel the same. Why? Well, here is a short list of what we have achieved in the last decade:

- *Grown membership from 25,000 to 40,000 committed activists*
- *Increased chapters from 22 to 60 across the US*
- *Grown from a staff of 7 to a staff of 21*
- *Improved and introduced new programs and chapter support*
- *Won countless chapter victories that have saved waves, preserved beaches and gained access to the coast*
- *Successfully launched two national campaigns resulting in the passing of the BEACH Bill and the establishment of a Marine Reserve in Puerto Rico*
- *Have become true leaders in coastal conservation, education and activism*

We accomplished all of these things and so many more because of the collective power of every individual that cares enough to be a part of the Surfrider Foundation. We are the true Keepers of the Coast.

The Surfrider Foundation continues to evolve and it is exciting to be a part of this change. As long as we remain true to our mission, have committed members and activists, and are united, we will continue to be the leading coastal advocacy group that we are today.

I hope that you remain inspired to continue to do the good work you have been doing. I encourage you to stay involved, recruit new members and activists, and also find the motivation to continually improve upon what we do—Protect and Surf.

For the Oceans, Waves and Beaches,

Michelle C. Kremer, Esq.
Interim Executive Director



When the surfs up, most of the staff heads out for a little "product testing." Michelle Kremer keeps it real at San Onofre. Photo: Juli Schulz

Year-End Chapter Roundup

By Ed Mazzarella

Ellis Pickett

West Coast

Surfrider Foundation's National Office recently teamed up with the **Newport Beach Chapter** to hold a joint fundraiser at The Living Room Salon and Art Gallery in Costa Mesa. The Cut-a-Thon benefit event helped raise the level of awareness of the Surfrider Foundation as well as signing up new members and raising funds. We would like to thank salon owners, **Lacey Sakert, Rob Commarate** and **Kiki LaSalle** and stylists, **Megan, Kristy, Debi, Heather, Kelleigh, Darleen, Drae, Jenn, Monet** and **Maureen** who all donated their time. We also would like to thank event sponsors, Haute Cakes, Memphis Restaurant, C'est si Bon, Audrey Marrata, Los Golondrinas, Lisy B and the Groove Ensemble for their generous contributions. We look forward to future event opportunities with the Living Room Salon and their outstanding staff and supporters.



Salon owners Lacey Sakert and Rob Commarate put down their scissors long enough to pose for a picture.
Photo: Ed Mazzarella

Congratulations to longtime **San Diego Chapter** activists **Jamie Miller** and **Marco Gonzalez**, who tied the knot this past September. With 350 friends and family surrounding them, the couple was married in a ceremony overlooking Moonlight Beach in Encinitas, California. Jamie and Marco met through their involvement with the Surfrider Foundation. Jamie is currently the coordinator of San Diego Chapter's Blue Water Task Force, and Marco is the former chair of the San Diego Chapter.

On the water quality front, following the **Huntington/Seal Beach Chapter** and Surfrider Foundation National's lead, **Matt Fleming** and the **San Luis Bay Chapter** coordinated with other groups to successfully encourage decision makers to study and upgrade to tertiary treatment in Morro Bay, and abandonment of their 301(h) sewage treatment waiver. And the **San Diego Chapter** is trying a new approach to non-point discharges by launching their "Street Team" to watchdog the area and cooperate with local government to prosecute polluters.

In coastal land management news, **Santa Barbara Chapter** activists **Ken Palley** and **Bob Keats** are searching for funding to place the ARCO coastal property in public trust for permanent protection.

Our **Ventura County Chapter** had one of those "watershed" moments when all the relevant agencies finally agreed on the wisdom of removing Matilija Dam, as well as "managed retreat" at Surfer's Point.

And the **Long Beach Chapter** finally got a majority of the City Council behind studying the removal of the southern breakwater and the return of waves to Belmont Shores. These chapters, and some of our most ardent individual members, have shown us templates for success and the meaning of persistence.

The **Laguna Beach, Isla Vista, South County** (formally San Clemente), **Malibu** and **San Diego Chapters** continue to impress us, and their respective communities, with innovative education programs for our next generation. A twist on our education programs that involves getting young students to cooperate in our Blue Water Task Force (what our **Newport Chapter** originally dubbed "Teach and Test") was launched in the **South Bay Chapter**, through the efforts of activists such as Andy Dellenbach—joining similar programs in **South County, Newport Beach, and Laguna Beach**. And of course, **Huntington/Seal Beach** and **San Diego Chapters** continue an impressive history of traditional Blue Water Task Force participation.



Interim Executive Director Michelle Kremer presents South Orange County Chair Mark Cousineau with a \$5,000 check from Surfrider Foundation National, OP and Dr. Tim Brown, in support of their Save Strands campaign.

Surfrider Foundation's **Central Coast Chapters** are experiencing the results of growing membership and interest in the region with the arrival last June of Surfrider Foundation's new Central Coast Regional Manager, **Kaya Pederson**.

Chapter Chair, **Ed Larenas** and his fellow **San Mateo Chapter** activists celebrated the completion of a new water quality testing lab this summer which will allow them to produce water quality results at the popular Surfer's Beach overnight and post them publicly Saturday mornings. In September, with the help of the **San Francisco** and **Marin Chapters**, the San Mateo Chapter conducted a competitive Linda Mar Beach Cleanup replete with prizes at the Women's Surf Fest, thanks to NorCal Women's Surf Club.

After placing a slate of new officers on board, the **Santa Cruz Chapter** is keeping as busy as ever with their conservation efforts. Along with wishing long-time chapter activist, **Teresa Ish** good luck with her new endeavors outside of Santa Cruz, we would also like to welcome aboard the chapter's new executive committee; Chair, **Jesse Hendrick**, Vice-Chair, **Patricia Matejcek**, Secretary, **Kathy Shortely**, Treasurer, **Jim Littlefield** and Volunteer Coordinator; **Rama Sandoval**. Throughout this important recruitment process the chapter has remained strong; maintaining regular beach cleanups, chapter meetings, water quality testing, and moving offices to the east harbor next to O'Neill Sea Odyssey. The Chapter recently joined a local coalition to remove two potential new dump sites located in the coastal zone and will be continuing its work to address local seawall, harbor dredging and storm drain management issues in their community. In their continual effort to include youth in Surfrider Foundation programs, the new Beach Cleanup Coordinator has started an environmental club at his high school.



Activists from the Santa Cruz chapter gather to present Teresa Ish (2nd on the right) with an award in recognition of her years of hard work. Photo: Santa Cruz Chapter

After a brief hiatus, The **Monterey Chapter** is back! The chapter held its first general meeting since reforming this past October at the Hopkins Marine Station. Re-energized chapter activists are looking into initiating work on several issues, including desalination proposals, the Marine Life Protection Act (MLPA) process, water quality, and seawalls.

East Coast



Above top: A Capitol Chapter activist gets his scream on at a recent tabling event. *Above:* Capitol Chapter activists prepare to hit the icy Patomac River for their annual Paddle For Clean Water event. Photo: Dave Riordon

"It must have seemed a strange sight to the joggers on the Key Bridge: 13 surfers bobbing on the ever-so-slightly rippled waters of the Potomac," read the headline in a recent WashingtonPost.com article entitled the "Dudes of Clean Water." Surfrider Foundation's Washington D.C., **Capitol Chapter** marked their annual Clean Water Day Paddle Out highlighting the need for strong coastal conservation, legislation and awareness. On the shore, chapter activists showed off a surfboard signed by scores of members of the House of Representatives that marked the passage of BEACH Act of 2000, which required states to adopt minimum water quality standards. But even with this act, additional measures are needed as identified by the U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy Report and PEW Oceans Report.

As chapter activists neared the completion of their paddle, resting under the Key Bridge, chapter member, **Matthew McMullen**, 46, propelled himself quickly enough to stand on his board for a few seconds, summing up what's best about the Surfrider Foundation, "When there are no waves, you got to makes waves"

The **Rhode Island Chapter** participated in Surfrider Foundation's Coast-to-Coast Paddle Out, which called attention to the recommendations outlined in the independent Pew Commission and U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy reports. Both these reports concluded that our ocean waters are in serious jeopardy due environmental problems. The chapter chose Easton's Beach as the site for the event because Easton's was closed to recreational use several times throughout the summer due to poor water quality. Chapter Chair, **Brian Wagner** spoke to event participants and reporters about the importance of moving toward an ecosystem-based management system as recommended in the reports. Wagner pointed out that regulations for coastal states bordering one another stay uniform, citing tributaries in states with lax pollution rules jeopardizing Narragansett Bay as an example of a problem with the existing approach. The event drew 14-year-old **Grant Pilkington**, who wanted to be there for the simple reason of wanting a lot of beaches to be clean.

New York City Chapter activists successfully launched their first annual Respect the Beach program this summer, but it wasn't just any program launch, as chapter activists **Erik Johnson** and **Rachel Rabinor** explained. The chapter partnered with the Children's Aid Society Carrera Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Program to present the Respect the Beach Program from July-August to 30-40 students at two locations-Intermediate School 90 in Washington Heights and the Si Se Puede After School Program at Loisaída, Inc. The program was divided into five sessions spanning five weeks; encompassing a beach clean up/scavenger hunt, hands-on discussion on the watershed, a Respect the Beach poster contest, an exploration of surfing history and culture, and concluding with a surf clinic for the students on August 20th.

Unfortunately, there isn't enough room in this issue to write a complete article on the entire program, but you can find a detailed write-up on the chapter's web site. The two works that were chosen as the poster contest winners were designed by Jose Salazar from the Intermediate School 90 for his comic strip poster depicting the power of one to make a difference, and the combined efforts of Qwanasia Moore, Cynthia Rivera and Rosa Guerrero from Si Se Puede on their bold and colorful design illustrating the link between the city and the beach.

Maryland's **Ocean City Chapter** is continuing its pet project: surf site stewardship; welcoming their newest partner, the Barefoot Mailman Motel, which will be taking up stewardship of the beach and break at 36th Street. The motel joins five other organizations which signed on to the program last year.



The Eastern Long Island Chapter gets ready to take part in the national Paddle For Clean Water. Photo: Michael Halsband

Surfrider Foundation's **Jersey Shore Chapter** is one of our founding East Coast Chapters, and over the years they've expanded their outreach by implementing the Respect the Beach educational program that introduces students to how waves are formed, how beaches are built and basic beach safety and ecology. They employ the Blue Water Task Force to educate New Jersey citizens about coastal water quality problems and to build support for national coastal water quality testing and monitoring standards. They address political and environmental issues that threaten New Jersey beaches and waters, including beach replenishment, ocean dumping, and public beach access while striving to open and preserve surfing beaches in coastal communities all along the Jersey Shore.

Under the current leadership of Chapter Chair, **John Weber** and the many activists who support the chapter, they will continue to provide the mechanism for Jersey Shore beach users to get active in their respective communities.



Surfrider Foundation Jersey Shore Chapter recently held their annual Manasquan Classic Longboard Contest. A very stoked Katlin "Pixie" Rixson shows off her 3rd place trophy in the Jr. Women's division. Photo: Brenda Thompson

Gulf Coast

As part of their ongoing Texas Open Beaches Act Campaign, the **Texas Chapter** has issued public position statements on several issues affecting their state's coasts. One such coastal armoring issue is the use of "geotextile tubes" which is detrimental to healthy coastal process. Although some advocate coastal armoring and geotextile tubes as a solution to erosion, the fact is that "hard structures" are a cause of increased shoreline erosion. To put it simply, dunes protect the shoreline by absorbing the erosive energy of waves. Dunes, being irregularly shaped, reflect and refract incoming waves in a changing and random pattern. Sand picked up by incoming waves absorbs wave energy. Movement of the sand and dunes by waves and storms protects the land and minimizes erosion naturally.



Swell from Hurricane Ivan made for some fun waves at Surfside, Texas. Photo: Theron Stanley.

"Coastal armoring" (geotextile tubes, seawalls, breakwaters, etc) replaces natural dunes with hard, solid structures that can actually increase the erosion rate. They do this by virtue of their design. Geotextile tubes, sometimes called "sand socks," are woven fabric tubes filled with sand. Once filled, the tubes harden, and like seawalls, present a flat surface to the waves. This flat surface causes the waves (especially large storm waves) to rebound directly, with more force and speed, carrying more sand away from the beach they were supposed to protect. They do offer some measure of protection for the land behind them, but only until they are breached or "overtopped" by waves or storm surge. Then they "contain" the surge, and flooding of "protected property" may be submerged even longer. Only a carefully designed, comprehensive program will protect the shore and preserve Texas public beaches.

Islands

Maui Chapter Chair, Jan Roberson, and chapter activists have been keeping busy with a host of campaigns and projects. Chief among them is their Ma'alaea Harbor Campaign, which includes commissioning environmental and stakeholder research studies among other key objectives. As the chapter continues to strengthen their presence on Maui by working to shape shoreline management policy, engaging in multi-sector collaborations and participating more fully in the legislative process, they haven't forgotten about the importance of providing students with free educational opportunities that promote coastal conservation issues. The chapter's Blue Water Task Force program is implemented in local schools free of charge through marine science classes and is very popular among students.

This past September, **Surfrider Foundation's Oahu Chapter** activists held a paddle out designed to increase public awareness of the pollution problems along Oahu's coastline. According to chapter activist, **Scott Werny**, the EPA lists Oahu as having 11 impaired waters that are noted to have excess pollution, yet it is extremely difficult to find any updated information on these waters, not to mention any warnings or other notification. One specific objective of the paddle out was to create awareness of the chapter's involvement in the Sand Island Wastewater Treatment Plant campaign. Currently, the plant operates under a waiver that allows it to legally fall short of meeting Clean Water Act discharge standards, and yet the plant continues to be in violation of the waiver's requirements.

Oahu residents have paid for millions of dollars in improvements to the plant that are ready to be utilized, but sit idle while the city wrestles in a legal battle with the contractor who did the work. The Oahu Chapter's efforts are a continual process, which demands the support of volunteers, members and residents of Oahu, so please contact them if you'd like to get involved in this campaign and others.



The Eastern Long Island Chapter gets ready to take part in the national Paddle For Clean Water. Photo: Michael Halsband

Pacific Northwest

Newly elected **Seattle Chapter** chair **Sasha Sicks**, and fellow members re-implemented their Blue Water Task Force Program to monitor beaches around Seattle—currently monitoring five+ beaches with 20 volunteers participating. In addition, they had a very successful year at the Summit at Snoqualmie with the Snowrider Project, attending more than six events and reaching hundreds of mountain users with their message. They have also developed a plan for this season to incorporate the Snowrider Project even further into the season at the Summit.



Seattle Chapter's Sasha Sicks and Malibu Chair Allen Reed get cozy at a recent Surfrider Foundation meeting. Photo: Matt McClain.

Surfrider's Northwest Straits Chapter implemented a Blue Water Task Force Program which currently monitors three beaches in North Puget Sound with 15 volunteers, and organized three beach clean-ups in North Puget Sound. Expanding their Blue Water Task Force Program in 2004 as well, was the **Olympic Peninsula Chapter** to include five new beaches with over 20 volunteers.

In 2004, they partnered with Clallam County Parks to improve access and facilities at the Elwha River Mouth, and are working to improve access at a variety of Straits of Juan de Fuca beaches. And we can't forget about their campaign to develop solutions to erosion problems (and avoid the construction of a revetment!) under the Port Angeles Landfill. In addition to thanking the efforts of Washington State chapter volunteers **Frank Crippen**, **Jean Olson**, **Mike Wheeler** and a host of others, we also want to thank Surfrider Foundation's Washington State Field Coordinator, **Ian Miller** without whom Surfrider Foundation's growth and outreach in the area would be slow coming.

Passings



On September 29th, our friend Jason Bogle passed away after a lengthy battle with cancer. Jason, who joined the Surfrider

Foundation through the Vans Triple Crown of Surfing, was known for his standout performances at Pipeline and elsewhere. He will be remembered for his courage both in and out of the water.



Long time San Diego chapter activist Bill Bartleman also passed away on September 29th. Bill was a regular fixture at chapter tablings and beach clean-

ups, as well as keeping the rest of the chapter in-formed on the City's storm water policies. We will miss you Bill.

We were also saddened to hear that Maui Chapter activist Stephen Cooney passed away this past November. Stephen was one of the island's brightest surfing talents, winning the 2000 Quiksilver Air Show in Costa Rica. According to Maui Chapter Chair Jan Roberson, Stephen was an "all around good guy" who was actively involved in beach clean-ups and native planting projects. We know that Stephen is now with Rell Sunn and Jason Bogle, surfing perfect waves and keeping the beaches clean wherever they are.

1st Annual Making Waves Chapter Recognition Awards

For over a decade, the Surfrider Foundation has relied on its network of grassroots chapters to carry out much of the countless hours of work necessary for the hundreds of environmental campaigns it has waged. In addition to campaign work, chapters actively recruit new members as well as conduct fundraising and educational outreaches. And though they may be united under the Surfrider banner, each of the Foundation's 60 chapters are as unique as the surf spots they seek to protect.

For the first time ever, Making Waves is honoring our chapters and their efforts. We've gathered a panel of judges to help us recognize those chapters who have demonstrated exemplary effort in several areas.

Best Chapter Website

In the last ten years, the internet has profoundly changed the way we view the world. The world wide web has fostered a sense of global connectivity that was previously unimaginable. While nearly all Surfrider Foundation chapters maintain individual websites, a select few have worked to raise the bar. Websites were judged on four criteria, including design, content, functionality and timeliness of information.

1. Malibu
2. San Francisco
3. Massachusetts
4. Newport Beach
5. Eastern Long Island



The judges were impressed by the clean and stylish layout of the San Francisco Chapter's website.

With its dazzling animation and wealth of information, Malibu was unanimously voted the top website of the year. San Francisco also garnered rave reviews for successfully capturing and incorporating the cultural flavor of the "City by the Bay" within the site. Massachusetts, Newport Beach and Eastern Long Island all received notable mention as well.

Best Chapter Event

Throughout the course of the year, Surfrider Foundation chapters hold a variety of fundraising and outreach events, including concerts, movie screenings, surf contests—even chili cook-offs! In determining the year's best chapter event, nominees were judged on four criteria: inventiveness, donations raised, members recruited and media coverage.

1. New York City / Newport Beach - Riding Giants Premier
2. San Diego - Art Gala
3. Jersey Shore - Asbury Park Surf Clinic
4. Malibu - 20th Anniversary Town Hall Meeting
5. Massachusetts, Rhode Island, NYC - Stowe Mountain Snowrider Project



(L to R): Stacy Peralta, Jeff Clark, Greg Noll, Laird Hamilton at the NYC Riding Giants event.

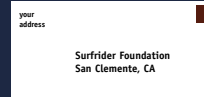
With so many chapters holding so many events, this was by far the toughest decision for our judges. Led by Massachusetts Chapter activist Carol Tobian, the Stowe Mountain event was a huge success, which hopefully will grow into an annual event. Surfrider Foundation's Malibu Chapter came up with what may have been the most creative event of the year - an exact recreation of the Surfrider Foundation's original meeting which took place at the exact spot twenty years earlier. On the east coast, our Jersey Shore Chapter once again worked to bring inner city kids to the beach as part of their successful "Surf Clinic" program. Meanwhile on the west coast, the San Diego Chapter held their Fourth Annual Art Gala. However, the event of the year must certainly go to the Surfrider Foundation's Newport Beach and New York City Chapters, who managed to leverage their Riding Giants events into a massive media and membership opportunity for both chapters.



Texas Land Commissioner Jerry Patterson poses in front of the Gore family and the Paddle Texas board "shaka Commissioner."
Photo: Ellis Pickett

Outstanding Chapter Performance—Media

This award recognizes the chapter which best capitalizes on media, through events, campaigns or activism. Criteria include: originality of subject matter, breadth of distribution and volume of coverage, as tracked by Allen's Clipping Service. This year the award goes to Surfrider Foundation's Texas Chapter and the husband and wife team of Gene and Rachel Gore, whose successful bid to paddle the coast of Texas garnered them national coverage in both broadcast and print media outlets.



2004 Clif Bar Chapter Membership Drive

San Diego
New York City
Newport Beach
Jersey Shore
Long Island

Now in its fifth year, the Surfrider Foundation Chapter Membership Drive proved to be our most successful effort to date, recruiting more than 1800 new members. In what proved to be the closest race in years, San Diego narrowly edged out New York City to win the membership drive for the third straight year. Newport Beach and last year's runner-up Jersey Shore battled it out for third place, while Eastern Long Island rounded out the top five.

Eastern Long Island also led all the chapters in the OP "Growth Award," gaining an amazing 69% of its own size in new membership. New York City came in second, using the membership drive to gain an impressive 51% in membership.

Most Active Chapter

Last year, Surfrider Foundation Chapters conducted over 7000 separate tests of water quality, cleaned 450 beaches and presented the Respect The Beach program to over 700 different classrooms. In determining Surfrider Foundation's most active chapter, Making Waves used the results from the Foundation's 2003 C-View report, which compiles chapter activity throughout the year. Making Waves combined total figures in three categories: total water quality tests conducted, number of Respect The Beach (RTB) programs presented and total amount of volunteer activist hours donated.

This year's winner was the Surfrider Foundation's San Diego Chapter, who topped the list in both water quality testing¹ and RTB presentations², and placed second in total volunteer hours (Surfrider's Texas Chapter topped that category)³.

¹ (912 tests)

² (170 RTB Presentations)

³ (with 10,400 volunteer hours)

Dear Editors,

As one of your Surf Day volunteers in Las Vegas, I wanted to thank Chelsea Murphy for the wonderful article about the Buffalo Exchange Earth Day Fundraiser.

It was through the Buffalo Exchange that I discovered the Surfrider Foundation. I knew that any organization they chose for their annual Earth Day Fundraiser would share the life-affirming, ecologically aware values of the Founders, Kerstin and Spencer Block, who I had the great privilege of meeting earlier this year. Their vision shines through the wonderful staff at my local store, who were all deeply involved and enthusiastic. They were truly dedicated to making Surf Day a success and made many people aware of Surfrider Foundation's vital work.

I am proud to be a member of your extraordinary, grass-roots organization.

Myrna (Micki) Lefferts
Las Vegas, NV

Thanks Miki. The Buffalo Exchange Earth Day Sale was a great opportunity for many of our non-coastal members to get involved. Thanks to you and your fellow volunteers for making the event a success! – Ed.

Dear Making Waves,

I would like to voice my irritation towards the lack of people that helped out this morning at the beach cleanup at Grandview:

It was an extremely nice morning for surfing, and the temptation was there, but I thought that giving up a couple of hours (at the most!) to help make our beach cleaner was a more worthy cause (seeing that surfing and a clean beach go hand-in-hand). I arrived promptly at 9 am and only saw a couple of people standing around looking sort of expectant, so I asked them if they were there for a cleanup. They told me they were and then asked, "Are you here for extra credit, too?" Ummm, no...I'm a Surfrider member who cares about a healthy coastal environment.

Later on a few more groups came, all of which were volunteer groups with motives such as "getting credit" and so forth. I turned out to be the only member there (besides the two women who came in the camper from Surfrider, and maybe a few others that I didn't see). So then I was wondering, where are all the other members because they must have been informed about this? I had been informed through multiple channels, including the Surfrider Foundation, Coastal News and Surfshot, so even non-members must have heard somewhere about it. Maybe all the surfers were out of town, but that is hard to believe when you look down at all the surfers in the water! I mean, the whole parking lot was filled, and the water was packed. I could guess at least one third of the surfers out there were Surfrider members! I am not in any way complaining that I had to pick up trash while I watched other surfers in the water, but wonder where people's priorities are? I read about, hear about and experience surfers doing great things for others and our environment, and then see fellow surfers making the choice to surf instead of doing something as small as picking up trash (that makes a big difference!). Even if they had not heard about the clean up prior to surfing, they could have at least picked up a bag and gloves and helped for just a little bit!

What exactly does it mean to care about our beaches and be a Surfrider Foundation member? To put surfing above all else, even if it means doing something that will benefit so many areas, including our surfing experience by having clean beaches? I hope that is not what surfers who are members and non-members alike represent, because it is certainly not what I want to represent as a surfer.

Kalyn Noe



Dredging and Filling the Ocean for Beach Renourishment

Many game fish, including pompano (L) and snook (R), rely on infauna as their primary source of food. Photos courtesy of Ken Lindeman/Environmental Defense

Ed note: This is the final installment of a five part series on beach ecology. This month's article was submitted by Dr. Ken Lindeman, Senior Scientist for Environmental Defense

Although they don't have the appeal of baby sea turtles or food fishes such as pompano, invertebrates such as mole crabs, coquina clams and reef-building worms are just as important to the nearshore system as reptiles and food fishes. Hundreds of invertebrate species provide forage food and habitat for shorebirds and economically important fishes, as well as other invertebrates like ghost crabs. Coquinas (*Donax* spp) and mole crabs (*Emerita* spp) are two of the most common examples of the suite of beach critters known as "infauna" which rely on shifting inter-tidal sands for their habitat. Many other species occur in nearby submerged areas as well. These organisms are not only connected biologically, but also by man's temporary efforts to stabilize naturally dynamic beaches.

For example, several different ecosystems across the shelf are affected by the large dredge and fill projects that are used for beach renourishment. Each system has its own characteristics (see Surfrider's *The Beach is Alive* materials) and can respond to dredging in different ways. Most projects involve the excavation and dumping of 1-2 million cubic yards of sediments and are completed in one to three months with 24 hour dredging, pumping, and bulldozing operations. It is useful to think of the biological impacts from the beginning of the dredging operations to the end.

Dredging most often occurs between depths of 20-50 feet. Cutterhead dredges dig straight down, deep into the seafloor. The resulting large craters are called borrow pits, though the same sediments rarely return to these sites. A different system, hopper dredging, trails a suction device across the upper layer of the bottom with reduced depth compared to cutterheads. Direct mortality to a wide array of bottom organisms (crabs, worms, mollusks, etc.) occurs with both systems. Despite occasional buffer zones between dredges and reefs (there are no consistent standards), both types of dredges and associated equipment (e.g., discharge pipelines, mooring chains) can directly damage reefs or other areas.

Because of the excavation and hydraulic pumping of hundreds of thousands of cubic yards of sediment during offshore dredging, turbidity clouds (sediments in the water) are created that extend both downstream and across the shelf for miles. Turbidity may be most concentrated at the dredge excavation site or at the site of slurry overflow for hopper dredge barges. Heavier sediments settle out, stressing corals and other bottom-dwelling animals that provide food and shelter for fishes. Frequent wind- and wave-induced resuspension of fine-grained dredge sediments may occur for years after a series of projects. Divers, surfers and fishermen often comment on how the water “turns to milk” with prolonged wind near frequently dredged areas, such as Jupiter Island, Florida, the site of approximately ten renourishment projects over 25 years. The responses of differing plants and animals to reductions in water quality from chronic turbidity may operate at time scales of hours to decades, with effects ranging from immediate death to masked impacts (e.g., lowered growth and therefore lessened reproduction) that may be cumulatively large through time. Pipelines of 24 to 36-inch diameter are often used to transport hydraulically-pumped fill from the mid-shelf dredge sites across the shelf to the nearshore dump sites. These pipelines are sometimes laid directly across reefs. On the beach, literally at the end of the pipe, the slurry of sediment and water is blown out and then bulldozed directly out into the ocean for hundreds of feet. Impacts at this end of the operation occur on the exposed beachface, where many existing beach fauna are buried, and in nearshore waters where a somewhat different fauna is also directly buried or at least exposed to extremely high turbidity.

The most immediate and direct impact to beach infauna is burial and mortality of organisms, which results in an immediate drop in abundance in the months following a replenishment project (Rakocinski, 1996; Peterson et al., 2000). Recovery to pre-replenishment numbers can occur anywhere from months to a year after sand placement (Reilly and Bellis, 1983; Peterson et al., 2000), but that depends on a number of factors: the geographic range of the project; the seasonal timing, duration and frequency of replenishment; location of sand placement within the beach profile; and most importantly, compatibility of the mined sand with what’s already on the beach (Hackney et al., 1996; Rakocinski et al., 1996; Peterson et al., 2000).

As if direct mortality weren’t enough, there are numerous indirect impacts of beach fill projects to beach invertebrates. Increased amounts of fine-grained sediments and alteration of the beach profile can impact the infaunal community structure; in other words, the types of species may change as a result of these projects, and recovery to a “pre-project” state may be delayed (Reilly and Bellis, 1983; Rakocinski et al., 1996). Localized increases in turbidity from deposit of the dredged material in a water and sediment mix can impair the feeding efficiency of invertebrates, as well as visually-feeding surf zone fish. Mole crabs, for instance, collect food particles from “hairy” antennae that they stick into the surf; the high levels of fine material can clog up the antennae and result in decreased growth and mortality (Reilly and Bellis, 1983).



Mole crabs (top) and coquinas (bottom) are integral parts of the near shore food chain. Photos: Gilbert Grant/Photo Researchers and Robert Hermes/Photo Researchers.

Immediately offshore, sandy or reef bottoms are also buried from 100-200 feet out. In Florida, shallow nearshore reefs that are federally designated as Essential Fish Habitats are still directly buried. Over 325 species of invertebrates alone have been identified on nearshore reefs buried by renourishment dredging. This includes living colonies of star corals, fire corals, and large numbers of other attached or cryptic species. In terms of fishes, the numbers at a south Florida site where 12 acres of reef were buried decreased by 95%. The abundance declines at the burial site were present 18 months after impact. Eighty percent of the individuals were early life stages, indicating that the buried nearshore reefs are nursery habitats for small life stages that can’t simply swim away when their habitat is buried. These and other studies have now identified over 200 species of fishes associated

with nearshore reefs of southeast Florida. In total, over 500 species of marine animals are known to use the reefs buried by renourishment projects.

All recent federal expert reports conclude that our coastal areas have lost too much habitat and are too overfished. These reports, including the US Commission on Ocean Policy Report, repeat the need for precautionary and ecosystem-based management. In most areas, the short-term effects of large dredging projects upon nearshore plants, invertebrates, and the fisheries they support are poorly known and the long-term effects are unknown. What we do know and what independent scientists most logically hypothesize is clearly not benign. Beach renourishment projects have a role in coastal management, but it is time for substantially more independent research and scientifically-based enhancement of environmental review procedures.

Development Update

Year End Giving

If you're like most people, you do your major giving toward the end of the year. Some do this for tax purposes; others do it just in the spirit of the season. Before you ring in the New Year we hope you will consider making a gift to the Surfrider Foundation to help us in our efforts to protect and preserve the nation's oceans, waves and beaches. To make a donation online visit our secure giving webpage at: www.surfrider.org/donate. If you wish to discuss other gift opportunities please contact Steve Blank, Surfrider Foundation's Director of Development, at (949) 492-8170.

Transfer of Securities

Many of us have assets in the form of stocks. Whether these stocks have appreciated or depreciated in value this year, there are benefits to donating them to the Surfrider Foundation. Stocks that have appreciated in value are a convenient way to give to the Surfrider Foundation. As long as you have held them for at least one year, you can donate appreciated securities to Surfrider Foundation for their market value. Donors receive credit for the full market value of the gift on the day it is made. If your gift of stock, combined with other gifts, exceeds 30 percent of your adjusted gross income (the maximum deduction allowed for most appreciated securities gifts) the excess may be carried forward for up to five additional years. Donations of stock are exempt from capital-gains tax. However, please note that if donors first sell stocks in order to make a cash gift, they must pay capital-gains tax on the appreciation.

If you own stocks that have depreciated in value, you can still use them to make a gift to the Surfrider Foundation. In this case, it is best to sell depreciated stocks that have been held for at least one year, and then donate the cash proceeds. Donors then may claim a capital-loss on their tax return for the difference between what they paid for the stock and the price at which they stock was sold. Donors will receive a charitable deduction for the full amount of their donation.

Tribute and Memorial Gifts

What better way to honor those people we love, admire and respect, than to make a charitable gift in their name. Whether you are making a birthday, graduation, anniversary, holiday or memorial gift, simply log on to our secure donation page: www.surfrider.org/donate or contact us directly at 1-800-743-7873. Our staff will take care of the rest. Tribute or Memorial funds can be opened by friends, family members or anonymously. By giving to the Surfrider Foundation in honor of others, you can help us in our efforts on behalf of the nation's oceans, waves and beaches.

"I Gave at the Office . . ."



a member of Earth Share

Well? Did you? The end of the year is the time when many companies promote their workplace giving opportunities. This is your chance to take advantage of one of the simplest and most convenient ways to give to the Surfrider Foundation. The Surfrider Foundation is a member of Earth Share, a nationwide network of the most respected environmental and conservation organizations. Earth Share partners with employees and employers across the country to support hundreds of environmental groups through efficient and effective payroll deduction giving and offers a simple way to care for our health, water, air, land and wildlife.

Workplace giving is probably the easiest way to make a charitable gift. If your company offers an Earth Share workplace giving program, you can choose an amount that you wish to have deducted from your paycheck each pay period. These payroll deductions are fully tax deductible and take place automatically.

Think about it, a payroll deduction of \$10 (That's a half a tank of gas! Or, two large mochas!) from each paycheck will translate to a \$260 donation from someone who gets paid every two weeks.

Through Earth Share's workplace giving programs, you can elect to contribute only to the Surfrider Foundation or you can donate to all of the environmental and conservation charities you normally support by designating them in your Earth Share gift. Earth Share is a part of many state and municipal government agencies' giving programs as well as the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC).

If Earth Share is not offered in your campaign, or if there is no campaign at your workplace, you can help us introduce the program to your employer. To learn more, or to request an Earth Share workplace presentation for your company, please contact Steve Blank, Surfrider Foundation's Director of Development at (949) 492-8170 or visit www.earthshare.org.

Surfrider Foundation

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On behalf of the world's oceans, waves and beaches, the Surfrider Foundation wishes to thank the following individuals, foundations, and corporations for their generous support received between Sept. 1, 2004 - Sept. 30, 2004.

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David Pu'u

Surfrider Foundation

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